

CLAIMS

1. A method for handling a call setup request (611, 7-10, 7-22, 7-24, 7-26, 7-42, 7-44, 7-46, 7-52, 7-52, 8-0, 10-4, 11-4) from an A party to a B party, characterized by
 - 5 maintaining (601, 7-0, 10-0, 11-0), for the B party:
 - multiple simultaneous caller groups (13), each caller group comprising one or more members;
 - multiple simultaneous profiles (20);
 - multiple simultaneous redirection settings (30); and
 - 10 - multiple simultaneous associations (40) of a caller group, a profile and a redirection setting;
 - for each of several changes of reachability of the B party, receiving (603, 7-20, 7-40, 7-50, 10-2, 11-2) an indication of a current profile of the B party;
 - 15 based on the call setup request, determining (613, 10-10, 11-6) the A party's identity;
 - based on the determined A party's identity, determining (614) one of the multiple simultaneous caller groups;
 - determining one of the multiple associations (40) that corresponds
 - 20 to the determined caller group and the current profile of the B party;
 - processing the call setup request according to the redirection setting (30) of the determined association (40).
- 25 2. A method according to claim 1, characterized by maintaining the multiple simultaneous caller groups, profiles, redirection settings and associations and processing the call setup request in a fixed network element (RS).
3. A method according to claim 1, characterized by maintaining the multiple simultaneous caller groups, profiles, redirection settings and associations and processing the call setup request in a terminal (511, RS') of the B party.
- 30 4. A method according to claim 1, characterized by maintaining the multiple simultaneous caller groups, profiles, redirection settings and associations both in a fixed network element (RS) and in a terminal (511, RS') of the B party.

5. A method according to claim 2, characterized in that the fixed network element (RS) is in an access network (AN) serving the B party.
6. A method according to claim 2, characterized in that the fixed network element (RS) is in a network (901) other than the access network
5 (AN) serving the B party.
7. A method according to claim 6, characterized by:
assigning a unique virtual number to the B party;
routing (11-8) the call setup request to the virtual number of the B party;
10 determining (11-10) the B party's identity based on the virtual number.
8. A method according to claim 3, characterized by routing a call to a C party by setting up (11-12 ... 11-18) a conference call between the A party and the C party.
- 15 9. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the redirection setting (301 - 306) indicates that an incoming call is to be routed to a different number or network address.
10. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the redirection setting (307 - 309) indicates a changed call
20 mode, and the method comprises processing (7-45, 7-56, 8-10 ... 8-18) the call setup request according to the changed call mode.
11. A method according to claim 10, characterized in that the changed call mode indicates an asymmetric call in which the A party and B party use different call modes.
- 25 12. A method according to claim 10 or 11, characterized in that the changed call mode is a silent communication for the A party and/or the B party.
13. A method according to claim 12, characterized in that the silent communication is chatting.
- 30 14. A method according to claim 12, characterized in that the

silent communication is limited chatting.

15. A method according to any one of claims 11 to 14, characterized in that the method comprises voice-to-text conversion and/or text-to-voice conversion.
- 5 16. A method according to claim 12, characterized in that if the current profile of the B party indicates silent communication for the B party, the B party's terminal is automatically set to silent.
- 10 17. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the profile comprises presence information (22) which is returned to the A party.
18. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the step of determining one of the multiple simultaneous caller groups comprises determining all caller groups which the A party belongs to, and selecting one of the determined caller groups.
- 15 19. A reachability server (RS, RS') for handling a call setup request (611, 7-10, 7-22, 7-24, 7-26, 7-42, 7-44, 7-46, 7-52, 7-52, 8-0, 10-4, 11-4) from an A party to a B party, characterized by
 - a database (DB) for maintaining (601, 7-0, 10-0, 11-0), for the B party:
 - multiple simultaneous caller groups (13), each caller group comprising one or more members;
 - multiple simultaneous profiles (20);
 - multiple simultaneous redirection settings (30); and
 - multiple simultaneous associations (40) of a caller group, a profile and a redirection setting;
 - 20 input means for receiving (603, 7-20, 7-40, 7-50, 10-2, 11-2) an indication of a current profile of the B party each time the reachability of the B party changes;
 - 25 caller identifying means for determining (613, 10-10, 11-6) the A party's identity based on the call setup request;
 - 30 caller group determining means for determining (614) one of the multiple simultaneous caller groups based on the determined A party's identity; associations determining means for determining one of the multiple

associations (40) that corresponds to the determined caller group and the current profile of the B party; and

call processing means for processing the call setup request according to the redirection setting (30) of the determined association (40).

5 20. A reachability server (RS) according to claim 19, characterized in that the reachability server is located in an element of a fixed network (AN, DN, PSTN, 901).

10 21. A reachability server (RS') according to claim 19, characterized in that the reachability server is located in a terminal (511, RS') of the B party.